

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2167

Introduced by Assembly Member Muratsuchi

February 20, 2014

An act to add Section 49416 to the Education Code, relating to pupils.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2167, as introduced, Muratsuchi. Pupils: California Healthy Kids Survey.

Existing law requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, the State Board of Education, and the State Department of Education to provide to the State Chief Information Officer the individual nonpersonally identifiable or aggregate data related to, among other things, pupil assessment and accountability, including, but not limited to, data generated from, or related to, adequate yearly progress, graduation rates, pupils who drop out of school, and demographics of pupils and teachers.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to submit to the Governor, the Legislature, and the state board a report called the Annual Report on Dropouts in California that includes data on school climate and pupil engagement from the California Healthy Kids Survey.

This bill would establish the California Healthy Kids Survey as a comprehensive pupil self-report data collection system that addresses school climate, campus safety, and pupil health risks and behaviors. The bill would authorize school districts to administer the survey biennially to pupils in certain grades, and would also authorize a school district to conduct 2 supplemental surveys, the California School Parent Survey and the California School Climate Survey. The bill would specify

that funds shall be appropriated to the department in the annual Budget or other statute to administer the survey, provide technical assistance, and collect data, as specified. The bill would specify that, to the extent that funds are appropriated to the department for these purposes, the department also shall administer and make available to school districts the California School Climate Survey and the California School Parent Survey.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:
- 3 (a) School climate is the learning conditions and quality of the
4 environment that affect the attitudes, behaviors, and performance
5 of both pupils and staff. School climate and safety significantly
6 contribute to, or detract from, the overall academic success of
7 pupils and the general well-being of our children.
- 8 (b) A growing body of research shows that school climate
9 strongly influences pupils' motivation to learn and their academic
10 achievement, as well as teacher job satisfaction and retention.
- 11 (c) A positive school climate promotes pupil engagement and
12 helps reduce pupil truancy and chronic absence. Chronic absence
13 is associated with lower pupil achievement and is a clear indicator
14 for future drop-out.
- 15 (d) Methods to improve school climate often include shifting
16 pupil discipline policies away from punitive suspension and
17 expulsion policies to adopting alternative disciplinary measures,
18 such as positive behavioral intervention or restorative justice
19 programs that focus on early intervention. Punitive suspension and
20 expulsion policies, such as zero tolerance policies, show no
21 evidence of making schools safer and may increase youth
22 involvement in the juvenile justice system, fail to address the root
23 causes of behavior issues and underlying social and emotional
24 needs of pupils, and have been shown to disproportionately impact
25 pupils of color and pupils with disabilities.
- 26 (e) The California Healthy Kids Survey of pupils, the California
27 School Climate Survey of staff, and the California School Parent
28 Survey form the California School Climate, Health, and Learning

1 Survey (CAL-SCHLS) data collection system. The CAL-SCHLS
2 suite of surveys provides a critical lens into the learning and
3 teaching environments of our schools. It is an important planning
4 and monitoring tool for pupil engagement, resiliency, at-risk
5 behaviors, and campus safety. It promotes school accountability
6 and supports pupil, staff, parent, and community engagement
7 efforts.

8 (f) The data collected from CAL-SCHLS is a tool for school
9 districts to plan, implement, and evaluate progress made in meeting
10 the state priorities of the local control and accountability plan
11 pursuant to Section 52060 of the Education Code, specifically as
12 it relates to school climate, pupil engagement, parent involvement,
13 and in supporting vulnerable subgroups.

14 SEC. 2. Section 49416 is added to the Education Code, to read:

15 49416. (a) The California Healthy Kids Survey is hereby
16 established as a comprehensive pupil self-report data collection
17 system that addresses school climate, campus safety, and pupil
18 health risks and behaviors.

19 (b) A school district may administer the California Healthy Kids
20 Survey biennially to pupils in grades 5, 7, 9, and 11.

21 (c) A school district may conduct both of the following
22 supplemental surveys:

23 (1) The California School Parent Survey, which assesses the
24 perceptions of parents related to school climate, parent outreach,
25 and pupil achievement.

26 (2) The California School Climate Survey, which is a staff
27 survey to guide school improvement efforts to foster positive
28 learning and teaching environments.

29 (d) Before administering the California Healthy Kids Survey,
30 a school district shall comply with the parent and guardian
31 notification and consent provisions contained in Section 51513
32 and subdivision (b) of Section 51938.

33 (e) Data collected through the California Healthy Kids Survey,
34 the California School Climate Survey, and the California School
35 Parent Survey shall be confidential.

36 (f) (1) Funds shall be appropriated to the department in the
37 annual Budget Act or other statute to administer and make available
38 the California Healthy Kids Survey, provide technical assistance
39 to school districts, and collect and analyze data regarding local

1 and statewide pupil health risks and behaviors, school
2 connectedness, pupil supports, and school violence.
3 (2) To the extent that funds are appropriated to the department
4 for these purposes, the department also shall administer and make
5 available to school districts the California School Climate Survey
6 and the California School Parent Survey.